Numb. 1469

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Monday December 15. to Thursday December 18. 1679.

Tangier, Nov. 20.

THE third instant we had advice that the Moors Army was in the Field. The 5th they gave the Allarm to most of the Redoubts upon the Line, and were warmly received by them. The next morning, our Governour (the Earl of Inchiquien) was informed by the Troopers he had sent out, That the Enemy had entrenched themselves on the South side of Kendal Redoubt, within Pistol shot of it, and had carried a Trench behind the Hill it stands upon, within Pistol shot of Charles Fort; And that the Enemy had opened another Trench on the South side of James Redoubt, and were working towards it. This was so new a thing among the Mores, that it was some surprise to us; and his Excellency, who knew the Redoubts were not maintainable, if the Moors persisted in that way of attacking them, immediatly applyed himself to the fortifying of Pole Fort, which is of great importance to be preserved; and supplied all the other Forts with a sufficient number of men, Amunition, and Provisions. The same day we brought a Mortar-Peice to Charles Fort, a great many shot and stones were shot into the Enemies Trenches, and our men sallyed out twice and beat the Enemy from their Trenches with hand Granadoes. The 7th Vice Admiral Herbert, who was in the Road with a Squadron of Men of War, came ashore with 350 stout men, very well disciplined and Officer'd. The same day his Excellency thought it necessary to relieve Kendal Fort, and in order thereunto sent out a Party of Granadeers to attack the head of their Trench near Charles Fort, which obstructed it; and another considerable Party, sustained by 100 Musketeers, to attack the South end of the same Trench, which was performed with all the Vigour and Success that could be wished. The 8th James Fort was relieved, and Ensign Adams, with 36 choice men and a Serjeant, put into it, which was done with the loss only of one man; But his Excellency perceiving the Enemies intention to be to undermine that Fort as well as Kendal, resolved to hinder them by a vigorous sally; and having put Pole Fort into such a posture as might serve for the retreat of our men, caused a Trench to be carried from thence near half way to James Redoubt, that might cover them from the incursions of the Enemies horse, and at the end of it a place of Arms to be made, detached 100 men of the Garison, Commanded by Captain St. John, a Lieutenant, and an Ensign; and 100 of Vice-Admiral Herbert's men, commanded by Lieutenant Wheeler and Lieutenant Nevel, the whole Party being commanded by the Vice-Admiral in Person, and our Lieutenant Governor Collonel Dungan, Captain Carter, Captain Choveſly, Captain Matthews, Mr. Sheers, and several other Gentlemen and Officers accompanying them as Volunteers. A Party of these made a brisk Attack at the head of the Enemies Trench near Charles Fort, in order to draw the Enemies Horse to that side of the Country, that so the chief Attack which was designed on the other might be made with the greater success, which succeeding accordingly, our men, consisting in Granadeers and 2 small Parties of small shot, advanced under the shelter of our own Line to the Enemies Trench (towards James Fort) and the place of Arms they had at the end of it joyning to our Line, out of which they beat the Enemy, and played their Granadoes and small-shot so thick, that they must needs have made a great slaughter among them. Our men were possest of their Trench near half an hour, by which time the noise of the Action brought the Horse from the other side, upon whose appearance, our men, accotding to the Order they had received, made their retreat in very good order. Then the Enemy entred our Lines with about 40 Horse and 200 Foot, where our men making a stand the Firing was great on both sides, till the Enemy retired, having left several of their Carkasses in our Fields, while on our side there was only one man killed and 4 or 5 wounded, among which were Capt. Carter Commander of the Centurion, and Capt. Chovelly of the Saphire, but their wounds are slight. The 9 and 10th our men were employed in making a Trench about Pole Fort, and in carrying a Line of communication from our Place of Arms to James Redoubt, to secure the retreat of our men there, if there were occasion, in which work Lieut. Tabram was killed. The 11th His Excellency, upon the advice he had from Ensign Adams, That the Enemy had brought their Mines under the Fort, ordered him to abandon it, which he did without any loss; the same Orders were sent to Kendal, which were immediatly executed, our men blowing up the same, and only two of them were wounded in coming off. The 12th the Enemy advancing their Trenches within our Line, by which means the retreat of our men in Ann and Monmouth Forts would have been cut off, if his Excellency had not presently sent them Orders to abandon them, which was done accordingly. The 13th, 14th and 15th the Enemy began to be more quiet, as if they had thoughts of retiring, and on the latter day a Jew came in with a Flag of Truce, with a Letter to his Excellency from the Alcaide, signifying, That what had happened was occasioned by our building of Forts in their Country, which they could not suffer, and that he was there in Person ready to do his Excellency any Service, if he thought fit to send any Person to discourse with him the Jew adding that the Alcaide was desirous of Peace, which his Excellency, knowing the treachery of the Moors, took no notice of; only answering the Alcaide, that he had no occasion of sending any body out to him. The same day Ann, Monmouth, and James Redoubts were blown up by the Moors. The 18th his Excellency had advice that the Moors were retiring, which was confirmed the next day, and that the Army was dispersed, and the Alcaide returned to Alcazar. And this day being the 20th, considerable parcels of Merchandize are coming in and going out.

Hamburg